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however, appeared on the occasion, and voluntarily subscribed to the oath, in the presence of the Rev. Mr. Hamilton, of Strabane, the Rev. Mr. Cochrane, of Bun-crana, and Captain Todd. This proceeding had the sanction of Mr. O'Flaherty, the Parish Priest, and has given very general satisfaction in the neighbourhood; and we should be glad to see, that in every part of the country his Majesty's arms are retained by such truly loyal men only, who, without regard to sect or party, are determined to preserve our happy laws and Constitution against all innovation or change, unless such as shall proceed from the wisdom of the Legislature."

GARVAGH, OCTOBER 4.

"The public is but too well acquainted with those proceedings which, under the description of RELIGIOUS ANIMOSITIES, have infested this neighbourhood. It is equally notorious, that the seeds of these enmities have been suffered to spread their roots as deeply through this, as through any other portion of Ireland, and that, in their progress, the intervals between general and preconcerted arrays, have lately been devoted to the more disgraceful system of private way-laying and cowardly revenge. Lives had been lost, and individuals assaulted, and still the hostilities were increasing. Such was the unhappy condition in which the Rector of this parish (the Rev. Mr. Sampson) found his parishioners after a short and necessary absence. Immediately on his return, Mr. Sampson consulted with the several ministers of the gospel, having congregations within his parish, and finding each of these anxious to second his endeavours, he called together a general meeting of the parishioners.

"Our limits do not at present admit of detailing the manner in which these mischiefs were reprobated and exposed: it is enough to state, that Mr. Sampson followed up the impression, by calling forward six members of the established church, who, with himself, offered their voluntary service to maintain the peace of the country, requiring, at the same time, that they might be permitted to bind themselves together by some solemn obligation; to this effect, the oath of *assistant peace-officer* was administered on the spot, by A. Purviance, Esq., the Magistrate of the district, who attended purposely at the meeting. The example was instantly and in all respects followed by the Rev. Mr. Duffy, attended by six of the Roman Ca-

tholic persuasion. The Seceding congregation also, invited by the Rev. Mr. Maines, named from their body six well-approved men, who, with their minister, entered into the same pledge, according to their own solemnity. In the unavoidable absence of the Rev. Mr. Brown, a respectable elder, in his name, with six chosen men of the Presbyterian congregation, joined in the same offer of service, accompanied by the same obligation. In this happy manner, many who had looked on each other with private distrust, became publicly pledged to mutual good offices, and good will. The authority of the Magistrate was enforced by the voluntary support of 28 *assistant peace-officers*; and we have now every reason to believe, that either the violaters of the peace will be utterly discountenanced, or else, that they will be brought to justice by the most prompt and impartial exertions. It is not to enhance the reputations of any individuals, however deserving of public esteem, but it is with a more useful and extended aim, that publicity is given to an example, which, if duly followed, may be attended by the happiest effects, not only to the district in question, but even to the community at large."

At a meeting of the Roman Catholics of the County of Down, held pursuant to public notice, in the Sessions-House of Newry, on the 18th day of October, 1813,

WILLIAM TODD JONES, Esq. in the Chair.
The following Resolutions were unanimously agreed to:

Resolved, That considering the Justice of our Cause has become more clear and obvious, by the repeated discussion of our claims; and reflecting that it has been the decided conviction of the greatest Statesmen the United Kingdom has ever produced, that Catholic Emancipation would be a wise and healing measure, calculated to consolidate the strength, and improve the resources of the British Empire: we are induced to renew our respectful application to Parliament, for the unqualified repeal of those penal and restrictive statutes, which, while they insult and degrade our body, can be of no possible utility to those persons whose sinister and mistaken policy would seem to derive an unnatural pleasure from the continuance of our degradation.

Resolved, Therefore, that the petition

approved of by the last Aggregate Meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, be now adopted, as the Petition of the Catholics of this County; and that the Most Noble the Marquis of Downshire be requested to present the same to the House of Lords, and the Honourable Colonel Meade to the House of Commons, in the ensuing session of Parliament.

Resolved, That conceiving it to be utterly inconsistent with every principle of sound policy, that five millions of Catholics should be subjected to unjust privation and irritating disabilities, for practising that mode of worship which they conscientiously held to be most acceptable to the Deity, we appeal with confidence to the justice and impartiality of the Legislature, and trust, that at a period when every liberal and philanthropic breast glows with ardent hopes, that the extinction of a ruthless despotism, which has so long darkened the political horizon of Europe, will restore peace, liberty, and happiness to the civilized world, the Irish Catholic will not be left to mourn in the midst of the general joy. But that the fathers and brothers of those intrepid warriors, who have so nobly shed their blood among the raggy summits of the Pyrennees, to secure the independence of a foreign country, will shortly recover the dignified character of Freemen in the land of their ancestors, and that no gloomy recollections of the past, nor distrustful anticipations of the future, will be allowed to operate against the establishment of that harmony, and cordial unanimity among all classes of his Majesty's subjects, which must be the inevitable consequence of Catholic Emancipation, and which cannot fail to enable the inhabitants of the British Isles to bid a proud defiance to the most formidable efforts of all their enemies.

Resolved, That as it appears, from the whole course of history, that national disunion has invariably proved to be a fertile source of national calamity, we cannot sufficiently deplore the existence of that harsh, unaccommodating, and jealous policy, which would refuse to conciliate the affections of a brave and gallant people, without requiring safeguards and securities which we conceive to be incompatible with the integrity of our religion. That, with feelings of the utmost indignation, we spurn the foul calumny which would insinuate, that the religious tenets of the patriots who wrested Magna Charta from a tyrant on the plains of Runnymede, are

not consistent with the best and purest principles of British liberty. That, anxious for the confidence of our Protestant countrymen, we sincerely regret, that any portion of them should deem it requisite, for the safety of our political establishments, to propose arrangements to which we cannot accede, without incurring what, in our circumstances, guided by the decision of our Bishops, we firmly believe to be the heavy guilt of schism and apostasy, from the faith of our forefathers. That we could not avoid considering the enactment of such clauses as a religious persecution. That we are persuaded, had our friends in the House of Commons viewed them in this light, they never would have given them the sanction of their approbation; and, consequently, we hope, that the Legislature will not renew the idea of demanding securities, which we deem equally impolitic and impracticable. That, adhering to those enlightened and liberal principles of Legislation, which should always characterize the proceedings of a British Senate, it will consent to receive such pledges as we can offer, consistently with the preservation of our religious creed. These are our services, our interests, our indelible gratitude, and our solemn oaths of allegiance. In these, we hope, it will confide, as the most powerful motives of human action, and the best guarantee for the permanent stability of that Constitution, to the benefits of which, we trust, we shall shortly be admitted, and which it will then be our greatest pride, as well as interest, to defend against all foreign and domestic enemies.

Resolved, That the Roman Catholic Prelates of Ireland, and their Agent, Dr. Milner, command our admiration and esteem, for their pious and exemplary conduct on all occasions, but particularly for the active zeal and vigilance which they manifested in watching the progress of the Catholic bill brought last session into Parliament, and for their mild, but dignified censure of the ecclesiastical clauses attached to it.

Resolved, That the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and our much esteemed countrymen the Synod of Ulster, deserve our warmest acknowledgments, for the liberal and enlightened declaration of their sentiments in favour of religious liberty.

Resolved, That our best thanks are eminently due to Lord Fingall, and the Catholic Board, for the assiduity, integ-

city, and talent, which they have uniformly exhibited in the prosecution of our claims; and that the measures which they adopted have always merited our decided approbation.

Resolved, That their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Sussex and Kent, and our other Illustrious Friends in both Houses of Parliament, have a just claim to the most cordial expression of our gratitude, for the unrivalled eloquence, and irresistible powers of reasoning, which they have so frequently displayed in favour of our cause, and which have either reduced our enemies to silence, or driven them to the expedient of demanding securities against anticipated dangers; which are equally delusive and improbable.

That Charles H. Teeling, Esq. be added to the list of those to whom we have confided the care and management of our petition, and that he possesses our entire confidence.

WM. TODD JONES, Chairman.

William Todd Jones, Esq. having left the Chair, and Charles H. Teeling, Esq. being called thereto, it was moved by P. O'Hanlon, Esq., seconded by Arthur Fagan, Esq., and carried unanimously,

That the thanks of this meeting are justly due, and are hereby given, to that truly venerable patriot, William Todd Jones, Esq., as well for the dignified manner he filled the Chair this day, as for his long and unceasing exertions in favour of Civil and Religious Liberty.

CHARLES H. TEELING.

At a meeting of the Roman Catholics of the County of Antrim, held pursuant to public notice, at the New Chapel in Belfast, October 28th, 1813,

JAMES M^CGUCKIN, Esq. in the Chair,

Resolved, That the enlightened advocates of civil and religious liberty, having repeatedly demonstrated, both in and out of Parliament the injustice of those penal statutes which aggrieve the Catholic body; and having proved, that the full and unrestricted restoration of our civil rights cannot be contradicted by any solid argument, founded on the dictates of reason, the tenets of the Catholic religion, or the principles of the British Constitution; we cannot, therefore, but regard

the continuation of our civil disabilities as a system of bad policy, intolerance and oppression.

Resolved, That neither the unaccountable manner in which our petitions have been hitherto rejected, nor the distressing disappointment which our political hopes met with in the last session of Parliament, shall prevent us from again appealing to the Legislature, for the unqualified abolition of those penal laws which still affect the Catholics of the British Empire.

Resolved, That the petition definitively agreed on by the Catholic Board, on Saturday the 23d instant, be hereby adopted, as the petition of the Catholics of this County.

Resolved, That our faith, and the present form of our Church discipline, have been strictly consistent with the unqualified allegiance which we owe to our King and the British Constitution, we consider it degrading to offer us emancipation, embarrassed with any restricting arrangement which might intermeddle with, or interfere, directly or indirectly, with the free exercise of our religion.

Resolved, That our venerable Prelates are justly entitled to our warmest thanks, for the unremitting zeal and pastoral vigilance which they have uniformly evinced, in attending to the true interests of the Catholic Church.

Resolved, That our most sincere thanks are justly due, and hereby given, to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and to the Synod of Ulster, for their liberal declaration in favour of religious liberty.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting are justly due to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, the Marquis of Downshire, the Earl of Donoughmore, the Right Hon. Henry Grattan, the Right Hon. George Ponsonby, and the rest of our Parliamentary friends, for their uniform support of Catholic Emancipation.

Resolved, That our much esteemed Protestant and Presbyterian brethren, who have attended this meeting are justly entitled to our most unfeigned thanks; and particularly Doctor Drennan, and John Hancock, Esq., for their zeal and disinterested exertions in promoting the interest of our cause.*

* The unbought honour of a vote of